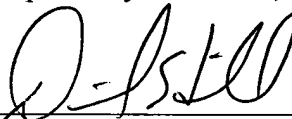


REMARKS

Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention represents a patentable contribution to the art and the application is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable action is accordingly solicited.

Dated: February 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Hill", written over a horizontal line.

David M. Hill

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